

Message Text

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43

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 IO-12 DPW-01

AID-20 RSR-01 /105 W

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R 141130 Z MAYSOUE
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4079
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
AMEMBASSY SAIGON
USDEL JEC PARIS
CDR USSAG NKP
CINCPAC
WHITE HOUSE

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: MARR, PINS, PINT, LA

SUBJECT: LPF AND DRV SIGN COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORTATION
AGREEMENT

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

REF: FBIS OKINAWA 111605 Z MAY 73

1. REFERENCE CARRIES TEXT RADIO HANOI BROADCAST MAY 9 REPORTING THAT LPF COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORTATION DELEGATION VISITING HANOI HAS SIGNED AN AGREEMENT WITH ITS COUNTERPART DRV DELEGATION CONCERNING " DRV CONTINUING TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO THE COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORTATION BRANCH OF THE LPF ON TRANSPORT, ROAD AND BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION, SUPPLYING OF EXPERTS AND TRAINING OF TECHNICIANS, AND ALSO ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORTATION BETWEEN THE LPF AND THE DRV IN 1973."

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2. ACCORDING TO FBIS BROADCAST, LPF DELEGATION WAS HEADED BY PHAU PHIMPHAC ., MEMBER OF THE LPF CENTRAL COMMITTEE, WHO SIGNED THE AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF TYM LPF. NGUYEN NAM HAI, DRV VICE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORTATION, SIGNED FOR DRV.

3. COMMENT: THIS IS THE FIRST INSTANCE WE CAN RECALL OF THE LPF CONCLUDING A FORMAL AGREEMENT OF THIS NATURE WITH THE DRV OR ANY OTHER GOVERNMENT. PURPOSE OF THE AGREEMENT APPARENTLY IS TO GIVE A CLOAK OF PSEUDO- LEGITIMACY TO NVA LOGISTICAL OPERATAPRIL 20 TO 27 , AFTER WHICH THEY WILL MOVE TO NIGER FOR WEEK. WE SUGGESTED HE MIGHT WISH TO CONSIDER THEM UFOR URGENT AIRLIFT OF US SORGHUM FROM TAMALE TO DORI. (COMMENT: WE ESTIMATE THEY MIGHT MOVE 150 TO 200 TONS IN A WEEK.)

10. REFERRING TO A REQUEST HIS RUAL DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR PUT TO US SEVERAL DAYS AGO FOR 350 TONS OF SORGHUM SEED TO BE DELIVERED TO THE NORHT BY JUNE 15, I ASKED WHETHER IT MADE SENSE TO TRY TO GROW SORGHUM IN THAT AREA AT ALL. WHY NOT GROW IT IN THE SOUTH WHERE IT COULD BE COUNTED UPON TO FLOURISH, ESPECIALLY WITH FERTILIZERS AND ANIMAL TRACTION, AND THEN EXPORT IT NORTH? HE ADMITTED THAT THE IDEA HAD BEEN UNDER DISCUSSION FOR TWO YEARS WITH THE LOCAL POPULATION THAT WOULD HAVE TO BE RESOLVED FIRST.

11. FOR FORT LAMY: MENSAH LEAVING OUAGADOUGOU FOR CHAD MAY 12. URGE YOU ATTEMPT CONTACT HIM IN EVENT HE DOES NOT TAKE INITIATIVE CALL ON EMBASSY. HE IMPRESSED US AS PARTICULARLY EFFECTIVE ELEMENT IN FAO DROUGHT TEAM. AS AFRICAN, HE HAS HAD GREATER ACCESS TO SAHEL MINISTERS AND APPEARS MUCH BETTER INFORMED THAN SOME OF HIS FAO COLLEAGUES. IN ADDITION, HE IS ARTICULATE AND WILLING TALK FRANKLY WITH AMERICANS.

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TAGS: MARR, PINS, PINT, LA
To: STATE INFO BANGKOK
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